

Many of you have heard that we have implemented a screening process at VA ECHCS starting on Monday, 9 March. Below is the latest version of the screening being administered to all visitors at our clinics. This screening process has already been updated several times and has the potential to evolve further as more information becomes available.

If presenting at the Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center:

1. Do you have a fever, cough or flu like symptoms?
 - a. If no, no additional questioning is needed
 - b. If yes, proceed to the below questions

2. Have you traveled internationally in the last 2 weeks?
 - a. If yes, where? If China, Iran, Italy, Japan or South Korea – proceed to below process – If Veteran, direct to ED screening.

3. Have you traveled to any of the following states in the last 2 weeks – Washington, NY, California or Florida?
 - a. If yes, – proceed to below process – If Veteran, direct to ED screening.

4. Have you been in contact with a confirmed coronavirus patient?
 - a. If yes, – proceed to below process – If Veteran, direct to ED screening.

If the individual answers yes to question 1 and then yes to questions 2, 3 or 4 – screener is to:

1. Determine if the “yes” screen is a Veteran or not – If not a Veteran, they will not be granted access and should be directed to their primary care provider or the nearest non-VA hospital
2. Screener tells vehicle to “Proceed to the VA ED” and provide them a map (PVN/PVS only)
3. Screener radios to ED “PVS/PVN/Colfax to ED, positive screening en route, provide vehicle color/type”
 - a. ED should return comms
 - b. ED notifies ED charge nurse for clinical coordination
 - c. ED charge nurse receives patient

* If a pedestrian screens positive, screener asks patient transport to take them to the ED (PVS/PVN only, outside route).

If presenting at a VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Southern Colorado:

1. Do you have a fever, cough or flu like symptoms?
 - a. If no, no additional questioning is needed
 - b. If yes, proceed to the below questions

2. Have you traveled internationally in the last 2 weeks?

a. If yes, where? If China, Iran, Italy, Japan or South Korea – proceed to below process – If Veteran, direct to Charge Nurse screening.

3. Have you traveled to any of the following states in the last 2 weeks – Washington, NY, California or Florida?

a. If yes, – proceed to below process – If Veteran, direct to Charge Nurse screening.

4. Have you been in contact with a confirmed coronavirus patient?

a. If yes, – proceed to below process – If Veteran, direct to Charge Nurse screening.

If the individual answers yes to question 1 and then yes to questions 2, 3 or 4 – screener is to:

1. Determine if the “yes” screen is a Veteran or not – If not a Veteran, they will not be granted access and should be directed to their primary care provider or the nearest non-VA hospital.

2. Screener directs Veteran back to vehicle and into designated parking area.

3. Screener collects Veteran’s name, last 4 of SSN, and cell phone number. (If Veteran does not have cell phone, vehicle information will be collected.)

4. Veteran will be screened by Charge Nurse for further triage and access determination.

If an individual refuses to comply with the screening, they will not be permitted access to the VA facility. If they are not cooperative, police assistance will be requested by screener.

As of 10 March, we have taken safeguards to protect our patients at the Pueblo CLC and the Spinal Cord Injury and Disorder Center (SCI/D) at RMR. Attached is the email that I sent out earlier this week that outlines those precautions.

Starting 20 March, we are planning to convert face-to-face primary care appointments to telephone or virtual care appointments. We are in the process of contacting patients regarding this change. If the PACT team determines that a face-to-face or Video Connect appointment would be preferred, we will work on converting the phone appointment as indicated. Attached is an information sheet regarding Video Connect and Annie, two tools used by the VA to take care of patients for your reference/forward as appropriate.